



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2004

No. 103

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAXBY CHAMBLISS, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Pastor Gene Arey, New Harvest Worship Center, Waynesboro, VA.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Father God, I come to You today on behalf of the Senators of the United States of America and the people they are called to serve. I thank You that we are one Nation under You, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I pray for our Senators as they seek Your favor, Your will, and Your righteous blessings for America. I pray that Your guidance, strength, and wisdom will be upon them as they make important decisions and ponder the future of this great Nation. As our Senators complete this session, bring them special favor.

Father, I pray for our President and our civic and military leaders. Grant them the wisdom to discern Your perfect will and to desire to walk in Your ways.

Finally, Lord, I pray for those loved ones who are deployed in harm's way. Please comfort them and protect the military forces stationed around the globe.

In the name of our Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAXBY CHAMBLISS led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 22, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SAXBY CHAMBLISS, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CHAMBLISS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will conduct a period of morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader and the second 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume executive session consideration of Henry Saad to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit. The order from last night provides for up to three cloture votes beginning at 11 a.m. on the Sixth Circuit nominations. First is on Henry Saad, to be followed by a

vote on Richard Griffin and then David McKeague. Therefore, Senators can expect the first votes of the day around 11 o'clock this morning.

Also we will turn to consideration of the defense appropriations conference report when it arrives from the House. We will be monitoring their action on that bill so that we can determine when we may begin debate on that bill this afternoon.

I don't believe there is a need for a great deal of debate on the defense measure; however, we will confer with the Democratic leadership on a time agreement for this afternoon. There are a number of other legislative and executive items we are attempting to clear before we depart for the August adjournment. We will be processing those throughout the day as well.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for statements only for up to 60 minutes, with the first half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I will use my leader time and ask that it not be taken from the allocated time to our Democratic caucus this morning.

HONORING NATIVE AMERICAN HEROES

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, Americans are united today in concern for the safety and well-being of our men

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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